STAY HOME
STAY SAFE
HOTEL SIDDHARTA
NAZARABAD, MYSURU PH: 2522999

STAR OF MYSORE

OUR EVENING DAILY

Vol. 43 No. 111 Pages: 6 Rs. 2.00
Ph: 2496520 / 21 / 23 Fax: 2496530
E-mail: voice@starofmysore.com
ad@starofmysore.com

MYSURU Sunday 14th June 2020
City Offices: K.R. Circle Ph: 2431774
Devaraja Urs Road Ph: 2428695
Visit: www.starofmysore.com

MUDA's affordable Group Housing Scheme in limbo

Mysuru, June 14 (RK&BCT)- The Mysuru Urban Development Authority's (MUDA) bid to solve the growing land crunch and premium on land value by building Group Housing Projects where there will be more than 2,000 housing clusters is now in a limbo as the State Government is yet to give its approval.

There is good demand for the Affordable Group Housing Scheme as thousands of people who want to own a house in Mysuru have already submitted applications when the "Demand Survey" was carried out for Group Housing Scheme.

In all, over 45,000 people have applied for the housing scheme. This apart there are over one lakh applicants for a MUDA site and people have been waiting since 20 years for a site to build a house of their own.

Best suited land

MUDA has so far not ventured into Group Housing Projects and had confined itself to plot development. There is a severe crunch of land and all the proposed new layouts including the ambitious Nalwadi Krishnaraja Wadiyar Layout, Swarna Jayanti Nagar, Shanthaveri Gopalagowda Layout, R.T. Nagar 2nd Stage and Ballahalli Layout are stuck in a quagmire. Some of these layouts have been planned in late 1990s and MUDA has still not completed land acquisition process. Though it has finished R.T. Nagar 1st Stage, it is stuck in other layouts.

For the Group Housing Scheme — aimed at promoting vertical growth as there is land shortage for horizontal growth — MUDA had prepared a plan in the year 2017 to construct 1,348 houses in the land along Ring Road in Vijayanagar 2nd Stage. This land which is locked between High Tension Road, Ring Road and Seshadripuram College was considered by MUDA as best suited for Group Housing.

Ambitious plan

The plan involved construction of a fourteen storeyed building of 1,348 houses and was estimated to cost Rs.422 crore. MUDA had reserved Rs.75 crore in its budget for 2017-18. The Project had proposed to build 120 one BHK, 1,168 two bedroom houses and 60 three bedroom houses. These houses would be categorised into luxurious, semi-luxurious and ordinary houses and would still be affordable to a common man.

After preparing the blue print, MUDA called for a demand survey, during which it received a whopping 45,000 applications and the demand is still high. Following good response, MUDA has sent a proposal to the Government along with the project blueprint and Detailed Project Report (DPR). This was in 2018 and the proposal is gathering dust in Government's file racks.

MUDA was constituted with the main purpose of development of new layouts to ease the housing needs of people and provide better infrastructure facilities. Mysuru is witnessing tremendous development after capital city Bengaluru.

(See MUDA on page 6)

Traffic Police will now come to your doorstep to collect fines

For triple riding, Rs. 500 fine would be collected, Rs. 1,000 for parking in 'No Parking' zones, Rs. 500 for passing Zebra Crossing and violators will have to cough up Rs. 1,000 for speaking on mobile phones while riding or driving," said ACP Sandesh Kumar.

Mysuru, June 14 (RK&KS)- Motorists who violate traffic rules and escape from Traffic Police thinking that they can get away without paying fines should now be careful as the cops will knock doors to collect fines.

Earlier, the Traffic Police used to send traffic violation notices through post and now, from June 12, Assistant Sub-Inspectors (ASIs) of all Traffic Police Stations in city have started personally visiting the houses of traffic rules violators to collect fines.

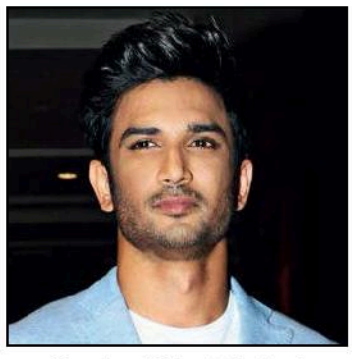
At present, the Traffic Police are conducting checking at all prominent junctions and roads and are collecting fines after issuing notices on the spot.

(See POLICE on page 6)

Actor Sushant Singh Rajput commits suicide

Mumbai, June 14 (Agencies)- Bollywood actor Sushant Singh Rajput committed suicide at his home in Mumbai. The actor was 34. He debuted in Bollywood with 'Kai Po Che' and was last seen in 'Chhichhore'.

Sushant Singh Rajput was found hanging at his Bandra home earlier this morning. Some of his friends were also at home when his body was discovered. The door to his room was broken and he was found hanging. Initial reports from the Police say that he was suffering from depression for the past six months. His friends also said that the reason behind this extreme step is depression. A suicide note has not been recovered yet.



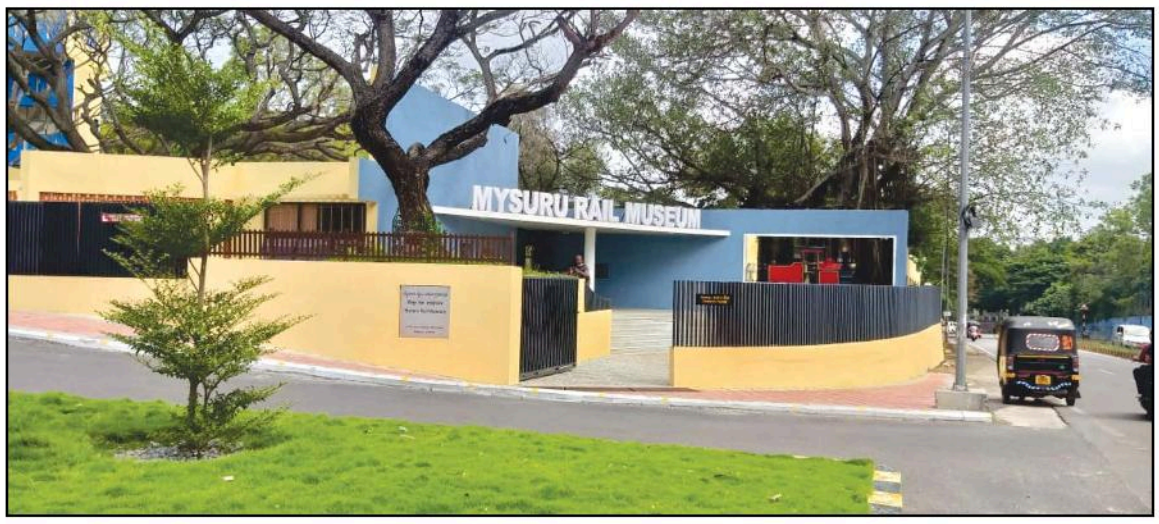
Sushant Singh Rajput

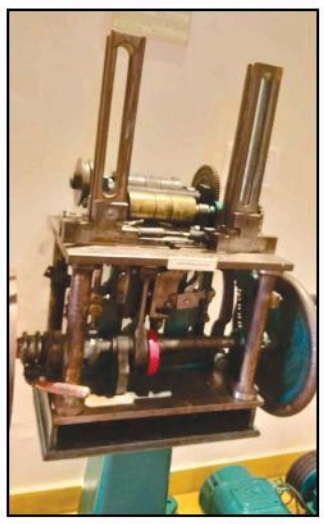
Sushant Singh Rajput had hosted a close group of friends at his home last night, according to sources. This, however, has not been confirmed by any of his friends. He had gone to bed really late and the house help was not surprised that he was not up and about in the morning.

(See SUSHANT on page 6)

Visitors throng revamped Mysuru Rail Museum

By Rajkumar Bhavasar





Mysuru, June 14- Mysuru Rail Museum is witnessing large number of visitors since it was opened to general public on June 8, 2020. The renovated and revamped museum had closed its doors to visitors following imposition of lockdown on Mar. 24 after it was inaugurated on Mar. 14. Now, after 70 days, visitors are flocking back to the museum ever since it was reopened.

The dream project of Mysuru Division Divisional Railway Manager (DRM) Aparna Garg, Mysuru Rail Museum depicts the rich history of 150-year-old Indian Railways, which was set up in 1979. Located on KRS Road, opposite CFTRI Main Gate, the museum has a fascinating collection of several ancient steam locomotives and carriages.

The museum had been closed for about a year from March 2018 for renovations and refurbishment. Later, after getting facelift, the iconic museum opened its doors for visitors on Mar. 14, 2020 following which over 800 visitors had flocked the museum.

The museum is now equipped with an attractive entrance portico as well as completely refurbished locomotives, carriages and wagons along with other rare and interesting exhibits. There is even a battery-operated toy train for children. What makes the museum distinct is that it is only the second of its kind, after the National Railway Museum in New Delhi. New amenities such as audio-visual media centre, playground for kids, cafeteria and toilets are all available now at the museum premises.

Established in 1979 by the Indian Railways, the museum is preserving and presenting a slice of the history of Indian Railways and its journey. A rare collection of royal carriages belonging to the erstwhile Mysore rulers, the Wadiyar Kings, is one of the high points of the museum and offers an idea about the grand nature in which the royalty of our country travelled those days.

An old model of steam locomotive as well as diesel and electric engines, tank engine, Saloon Carriage of Mysore Maharani, telecom equipment, locomotive boiler, steam pump, double-wire case plates which were in use in 1910-1920s, narrow-gauge coach of 1927, an old steam engine built by TISCO, inner view of steam engine, etc. will be on display.

The newly-renovated museum has a lot of added attractions including the 'Rail Coach Cafe and Cafeteria'; an old railway coach which has been re-modelled into a restaurant-style seating area where visitors can purchase snacks, other food items and beverages.

The museum is open for public viewing from 10 am to 6 pm on all days except Tuesday being a holiday for maintenance. The entry fee for adults is Rs. 50, for children aged 5 to 12 years is Rs. 20 and for senior citizens Rs. 25.

Eight-year-old girl flies solo from Hyderabad to Mysuru

Mysuru, June 14 (RK&BCT)- Desperate times call for desperate measures and here is an incident reported from city to prove that. An eight-year-old girl was united with her mother after three months following lockdown and the little one flew alone from Hyderabad to Mysuru in Alliance Air flight.

The incident came to light after the Airport Authority of India, Mysuru tweeted, "Nothing brings us more pleasure than to assist a daughter meet her mother after 3 months of lockdown. Salute to this brave girl who flew unaccompanied from Hyderabad to Mysore. AAI Mysore appreciates the efforts of @allianceair officials and all others who made the event possible."

The girl, Syeda Umme Hani, flew from Telangana on June 9 Mysuru and she was stuck in Telangana while her mother Arjuman Banu was in Mysuru. The Alliance Air came to her rescue and ferried her from Hyderabad to Mysuru. Hani's mother waited at the Mysore Airport for more than two hours to receive the little girl. The situation was tense due to the pandemic. There in Telangana too, Hani's father Syed Abdul Umair too was worried and was relieved to hear that Hani had reached safely. Sources said that Hani's father is a businessman in Hyderabad while mother is a clinical pharmacologist in Mysuru. Hani goes to a convent in Kesare and had travelled with her father to Hyderabad in mid-March during her holidays while her younger brother and mother stayed in Mysuru.

Lockdown was imposed in the last week of March and there was no inter-State movement. The mother could not meet her daughter for almost three months and once the domestic flights resumed, the family took a decision to allow Hani to travel solo from Hyderabad to Mysuru. The mother and the child had not seen each other since Mar. 16 and it was Hani's first fight journey.

Hani was desperate to see her mother and agreed to travel alone. It was an emotional moment at the Mysore Airport when Hani came running to Arjuman Banu and hugged her for over seven minutes. Mysore Airport Director R. Manjunath said that it was a special moment when the little one landed at the Mysore Airport unaccompanied. Alliance Air employees helped Hani in the journey, he added.

VOICE OF THE READER

Automatic street light controllers: Need of the hour in Mysuru city

Sir,

This refers to the recent letters by Prof. B. S. Shankara and Dr. S.V.N. Vijayendra about the urgency to install automatic street light controllers in city. I strongly support their views and urge the Mysuru City Corporation (MCC) to take up this project as early as possible.

I recall that MCC was approached by a private company more than two decades ago on the same subject but nothing progressed later. This was based on Jaipur Municipality implementing automatic street light controllers on a pilot scheme basis in 1996-97 and based on its success, extended the system to other towns as well.

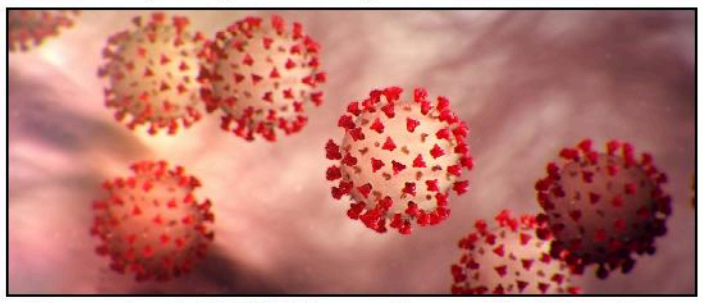
In Jaipur, this system was known as Dusk Dawn Switching System (DDSS) and solar-based power was supplied to the electronic system.

Presently, more advanced systems are surely available in the country and MCC can think seriously on the recommendations made by the two concerned citizens.

— H.N. Rama Murthy
on e-mail

Kuvempunagar
13.6.2020

Contact with COVID-19 positive persons: Four hotel employees quarantined



Mysuru, June 14 (MTY&KS)- A couple, who had returned from Tamil Nadu and was under quarantine at their residence in Ittigegud, tested positive for COVID-19 and this has created a sense of fear among the residents of the area as the infected man had visited a hotel in the locality. The hotel 'Café Mysuru,' located in Ittigegud, has been temporarily closed and sanitised by the Mysuru City Corporation (MCC) staff.

While the man tested positive on June 8 evening, his 54-year-old wife had tested positive on June 11 evening and as per COVID-1 protocol, their travel history was traced and based on it, the officials, along with jurisdictional Nazarbad Police, visited 'Café Mysuru' on June 12 night and inspected the CCTV footages.

The officials and the Police found that the COVID-19 infected person had visited the hotel on June 7 at about 7 pm following which the officials closed the hotel in the early hours of Saturday and got the hotel sanitised. Samples of four hotel employees including the manager and the supplier have been collected and sent to the lab for testing and all the four have been put under quarantine. Further course of action would be taken after receiving the lab reports.

The District Administration, which has taken this seriously, has sealed the road on which the house of the COVID affected couple is located and has asked the residents of the road to be under Home Quarantine.

Meanwhile, the District Surveillance Unit has urged those who had dined at the hotel from June 7 onwards to immediately self-quarantine themselves at their homes for 14 days if they have COVID-19 symptoms and report to the District Surveillance Unit in city by calling Mob: 94498-43265 or call Emergency Control Room on Ph: 0821-2423800.

Another person quarantined tests positive

A 35-year-old man, who had returned from Maharashtra and was under quarantine, has tested positive for COVOID-19 on Saturday, thus increasing the number of active cases to 116.

The man (P-6633), who returned from Maharashtra was quarantined at a centre and as the lab report confirmed him to be COVID-19 positive on Saturday, he has been shifted from the quarantine centre to the COVID Hospital in city and the room in which he was quarantines has been sanitised.

Schools ready to admit students but tepid response from parents

Mysuru, June 14 (RK)- Although the Schools in Mysuru district are all set to begin a new term, admission process in schools is still going at a snail's pace. Even as the State Government is yet to take a clear decision about when and how to re-open the educational institutions, Primary, Middle and High Schools in the district have started admitting students, but there has been lukewarm response from the parents.

As of now, the Minister for Primary and Secondary Education, after meeting with educational experts, mental health professionals, representatives of private institutions and other stakeholders, has banned schools from conducting online classes for students between lower kindergarten (LKG) and fifth grade.

The Minister has also given clear instruction to private schools not to hike fees this year owing to the critical economic situation due to the COVID-19 pandemic. But there does not seem to be any guidelines regarding admission process in private schools and hence, most of the private schools have opened their office premises and are eagerly waiting for parents to admit their wards.

Following relaxation of lockdown, most of the business establishments including hotels, restaurants and malls have been operational and are limping back to normalcy. What if there are no students or least number of students in a classroom is the million dollar question haunting the school administration.

On the other hand, parents are under an obligation to do all they can for their children at home. Speaking to *Star of Mysore*, Shakuntala and Gopal Rao said, "Ever since the lockdown came into effect, which is around two-and-a-half-months, our kids are staying at home. One or the other day, we have to admit them to schools, but the question is when and how long they are going to stay at home. As both of us are working, keeping them at home for months together would not be a good idea. Hence, we have decided to get them admitted to a nearby school."

While both Government and private schools are waiting eagerly to admit students, most of the parents have not yet decided about school admission. Most of the school managements are taking all necessary precautionary measures including thermal screening of both children and their parents near the entrance, sanitising their hands and urging them to wear masks and maintain social distancing.

Earlier, parents were eager to admit their wards to prestigious schools. In order to get admission in a prestigious school, some of them were trying to procure recommendation letter from elected representatives and other bigwigs. But this year, there has been a tepid response from parents, thanks to Coronavirus fear and lockdown.

Admission process would have completed by this time. But this year, schools have not reopened due to this pandemic. State Government has not issued any guidelines regarding admission process. Hence, parents can admit their children to school of their choice. Admission process is being carried out according to rules and regulations set up by the administration. **—R. Raghu, Kautilya Vidyalaya**

Government and aided-private schools can admit students from June 8. However, there has been no clear cut guidelines issued for private educational institutions in this regard. State Government has no objection to admission process but the Minister is consulting experts as well as parents, representatives of private institutions and other stakeholders and would come out with a solution in the very near future." **—Panduranga, DDPI, Mysuru**

'Do not handover Janapada Varsity land to temple development authority'

Mysuru, June 14- Karnataka Janapada University Syndicate Member Dr. K. Vasanthkumar has urged Chief Minister B.S. Yediyurappa not to handover the land to Sri Male Mahadeshwara Swamy Kshetra Development Authority, which has been earlier earmarked for setting up of Janapada University Regional Office in Male Mahadeshwara Hills.

Dr. Vasanthkumar said, "In 2011, in an effort to promote higher education and research in folklore literature, Chief Minister Yediyurappa had established Folklore University in Haveri district. With an aim to establish regional offices of the Varsity all over the State, two acres of land in M.M. Hills had been

allotted for setting up of Folklore Varsity Regional Office. Construction of Varsity building has already begun in the allotted land to accommodate 60 students so that they could pursue studies in folklore such a Dollu Kunita, Kamsale and other folk music and dance forms. But now construction work has stopped due to financial crunch."

"Now, at this juncture, in an attempt to stall establishment of Folk Varsity works, Male Mahadeshwara Swamy Kshetra Development Authority has written a letter to the Chief Minister and urged him to hand over two acres of land to them. We would like to advise the State Government not to yield to their pressure and provide financial aid to Varsity so that we could complete the construction work which has been halted halfway," he said.

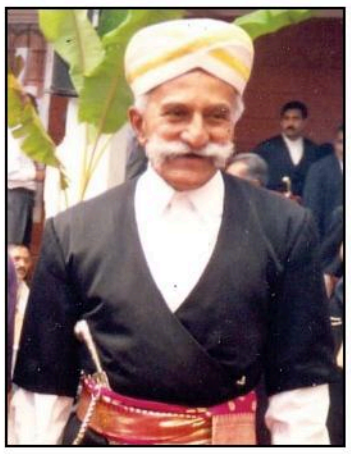
Lt.Gen. Codanda Somanna passes away

Madikeri, June 14- Lieutenant General (retd) Codanda Somanna passed away at his residence at Panjaraparte in Virajpet last evening. He was 94. He was down by age related ailments.

He is survived by his wife Renu Somanna, son and daughter. His son Nived Nanjappa is serving as a doctor in the US.

Somanna led the 'blue star' operation in Punjab with success. The last rites will be performed after 12 noon today at his farmhouse with military honours. Senior officers of the Army paid their last respects to the decorated soldier.

The last rites should have been held with full military honours. But, due to the Covid-19 crisis, symbolic military honours were accorded to the departed soul. Somanna had played a pivotal role in Operation Blue Star at Amritsar. He was serving as the chief patron of the Field Marshal Cariappa-General Thimayya Forum.



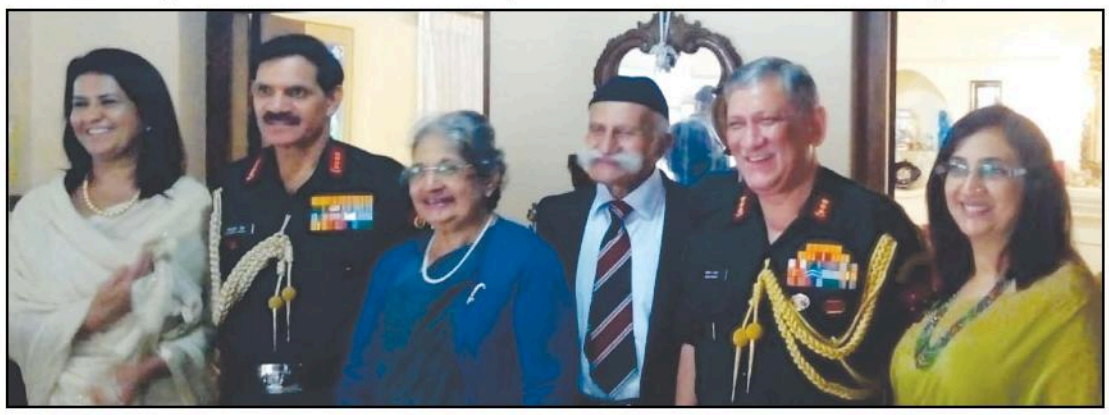
Codanda Somanna.

General Dalbir Singh Suhag, the then Indian Army chief, along with General Bipin Rawat (present Chief of Defence Staff of India) had, in 2016, visited the house of Somanna during their trip to Kodagu. Field Marshal Cariappa-General Thimayya Forum president Col (retd) K.C. Subbaiah paid tributes to Somanna, saying he was known for his discipline.

Reaching out to a veteran general

On Aug. 8 2016, the Facebook page of ADGPI-Indian Army has a post:

"A mega veterans rally was held at Madikeri on 6 Aug 2016 which was attended by General Dalbir Singh, the Chief of Army Staff (COAS) and over 1800 Veterans and Veer Naris from Kodagu District. The COAS while attending the rally realised that the senior most veteran of the area, Lt Gen C.N. Somanna (Param Vishisht Seva Medal), 90 years old was not present. Gen. C.N. Somanna was commissioned into 3/11 GR, but went on to command 4 Guards. He was the Vice Chief of Army Staff in 1984-1985. On enquiry he was informed about the ill health of Lt Gen Somanna. The COAS immediately modified the programme and travelled over 40 kms to meet the General at his home in Virajpet."



General Dalbir Singh Suhag, the then Indian Army chief, along with General Bipin Rawat (present Chief of Defence Staff of India) had, in 2016, visited the house of Somanna

'Uniform syllabus bad for autonomous growth'

Mysuru, June 14 (RKB&BCT)- The State Government's move to introduce a common syllabus for all degree and post-graduate courses offered in State-run universities is being debated intensely. The argument against the move is that if the uniform format is adopted, universities will lose their autonomy and diversity in the subjects they teach. Even BJP's student organ Akhila Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad (ABVP) has opposed the move. Now, former Vice Chancellors Forum has opposed the proposal for uniform syllabus in all varsities of the State.

Higher Education Minister C.N. Ashwath Narayan has been advised by Nasscom and certain other foreign entities that communalising the curriculum would be beneficial to students in getting jobs and building careers.

In a press conference here, members of the Forum, also former vice chancellors, opposed the Government's move for uniform syllabus and said that it will destroy diversity of varsities. Forum president S.N. Hegde said, "The move will have an adverse effect on the varsities and the Government must drop the plan." If a common syllabus is introduced the Board of Studies in the universities will become redundant, he added.

Ex-Vice-Chancellor N.S. Ramegowda said, "Varsities have their own courses. For example 'Theoretical Physics' is available only in University of Mysore (UoM). Similarly, other varsities have designed their own special courses. When there is no uniformity in teaching, it is not right to bring uniform syllabus." He remarked that the move was detrimental to the autonomous growth of varieties in the state. He added that it would prevent universities in offering courses that have a local flavour.

Former VC J.A.K Tareen said, "All varsities are not prepared to offer education online. It is not possible to conduct practical classes online. A majority of the teaching faculty are not familiar with online education." Former VC Ambalike Hiriyanna said, "The Folklore University has no permanent teaching faculty and it is not right to introduce uniform syllabus, online coaching and mentorship system."

Vid. Manasa Nayana to perform live this evening

Mysuru, June 14- Vid. Manasa Nayana will be presenting a special thematic concert of Mysore Vasudevacharya compositions today at 7.30 pm on Facebook page of Charlotte Devaranama Group *(http://Facebook.com/CharlottePurandaraAradhana).*

He will be accompanied by Vid. C.N. Thyagaraju (violin) and Vid. Sai Shiv (mridanga). For concert, log on to the following link: *https://www.facebook.com/106929994182932/live/*

Senior Civil Judge launches campaign on eradication of child labour

Mysuru, June 14 (PM&KS)- As part of Anti Child Labour Day, a two-day campaign on Eradication of Child and Adolescence Labour System was launched in city yesterday.

The campaign was flagged off by Senior Civil Judge Sunil Shettar at a simple programme organised by the District Administration, District Legal Services Authority (DLSA), Labour Department and District Child Labour Project Society near the Office of the Deputy Commissioner (DC).

The Judge suggested the co-operation of the public in the complete eradication of Child Labour system in the district. Five autorickshaws in city and one auto in each taluk are being used for the campaign.

These campaign autos are moving around industrial areas, crowded places, commercial streets and prominent roads distributing handbills besides creating awareness on not to employ boys and girls below the age of 14.

Labour Department Assistant Commissioner A.C. Thammanna, speaking to Star of Mysore, said that the Labour Department has taken strict measures to eradicate child labour system in the district and added that instructions have been given to owners of bakeries and various shops and also house owners not to employ anyone below the age of 14 and warned that offenders would have to undergo two years jail and pay a fine of Rs. 50,000 for violating the instructions.

Thammanna further said that 25 child labourers were rescued and sent to their houses this year. The parents of the rescued children were contacted and instructions have been given to them to provide education to their children, he added. Child Labour Project Society's Project Director Mallikarjuna, Labour Officer Manjula Devi, Senior Labour Inspector Veena and others were present.

Elderly woman's gold chain snatched on Basaveshwara Road

Mysuru, June 14 (RK&KS)- Bike-borne miscreants have snatched a gold chain from an elderly woman who was talking with another woman on Basaveshwara Road in city yesterday.

The elderly lady, who lost her gold chain, is 60-year-old Annapoornamma, a resident of Basaveshwara Road 5th Cross in K.R. Mohalla. Annapoornamma, who had come out of her house in search of her kittens, was speaking with a woman known to her, when two persons on a Honda Dio scooter snatched her 70 grams gold chain and sped away. Krishnaraja (KR) Police Inspector Srinivas and staff conducted mahazar.

They have registered a case and obtained footages of CCTV cameras installed on the road and are investigating.

Woman slips to death at her house

Mysuru, June 14 (YDA&KS)- A 60-year-old woman, who was staying alone at her house, died after slipping and falling at her house yesterday.

The deceased is Lathamaheshwari, a spinster and a resident of N.R. Mohalla in city.

Police said that Lathamaheshwari slipped and fell at her house yesterday morning and died on the spot following serious injuries to her head.

A case has been registered at Udayagiri Police Station.

Obituary

Chikkarangaiah

Mandya, June 14- Chikkarangaiah (60), father-in-law of journalist and photographer Holalu K.P. Kumar, passed away yesterday. He leaves behind three daughters, a son and a host of relatives and friends.

Last rites were performed at Maranapura in T. Narasipur taluk this morning.

Monumental pillars translocated in line with Heritage Arch

Mysuru, June 14 (SBD&DM)- In a technically important step for conserving the over century-old Heritage Arch at the Northern Gate of Government Guest House on B.N. Road in Nazarbad, the Mysuru City Corporation (MCC) authorities on Saturday successfully translocated two monumental pillars which stood at some distance away from the Arch, to alongside the Arch and in line with it.

The MCC has taken up widening (conversion to 6-lane road) and development of Abba Road on the stretch from Five Lights Circle to Hyder Ali Road Junction.

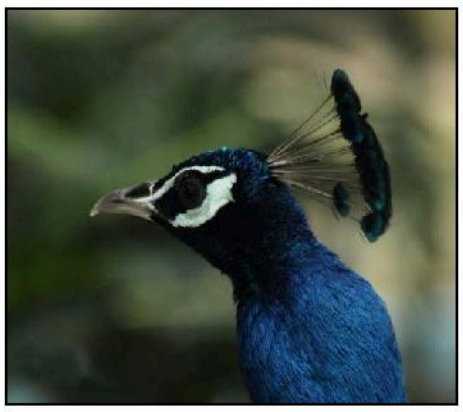
The two masonry pillars, each of 12 ft height, stood at a distance of about 10 ft away from the Heritage Arch of Government Guest House. But the pillars proved to be a hurdle for road widening and the MCC came up with a plan to translocate them safely parallel to the Heritage Arch.

Yesterday, road works contractor N.S. Jagannath shifted the two pillars safely without causing any damages to them with the help of two JCBs and more than 20 workers, in a 4-hour operation that ended at 8 pm.

The Mysuru City Corporation has almost completed road widening of the 400 mts stretch from Five Lights Circle to the Compound of Karnataka Police Academy (KPA). But these two monumental pillars stood as a hurdle as they came in the way of vehicular movement.

Subsequently, the MCC moved the District Heritage Committee seeking permission for their shifting. Following approval by the Deputy Commissioner, the MCC undertook translocation of the two pillars and succeeded in it without causing any damages to them. Following the translocation, the two pillars have been firmly grounded with a concrete bed at the bottom and secured with iron grills and concrete all around.

Lockdown, Let Loose...



By Ragoo Rao, Ethologist

Lockdown, sealed down, quarantined, COVID, Corona... these are sickening words. We are almost hearing everywhere 24X7 about mask, sanitise, wash and these are dictums. It is a dreadful period. A small sneeze from a little dust blown around is enough to either send you to a quarantine or everyone keeping away from you. What a dreadful time.

Still like the old saying goes... all is not bad in this world, there is always a brighter side to everything, including the lockdown period. People stayed home, families were better bonded, and the home was seen in an entirely new dimension. Home was not just a den to come back to but a safe dwelling place where you were the SAFEST. Even during the catastrophic times.

The brighter side to this lockdown period, at least from the point of view of the environmentalist, the naturalists and the birders, the air got cleaner, the garbage reduced and most important observation done by birders and conservationists are the appearance of wonderful species of

birds, hitherto not sighted inside urban locales, owls, flycatchers, falcons to name a few, and the most happily sighted not just by the birders but to the delight of every citizen who sighted them, the Peacocks, our National Bird. The citizens in various localities, sighted these magnificent birds, not just in the fringe areas but deep inside the mohallas too.

Peacocks or more appropriately peafowl were never sighted in a free-living state inside Mysuru. Not even in the bygone days. Even Chamundi Hill did not have peacock populations in the natural way. Now there are flocks of them in Chamundi Hill, delighting every visitor with their melancholic calls.

Bogadi Lake right in the midst of Vijayanagar 3rd Stage and 4th Stage has a sizeable flock of Peafowl. Hebbal Lake, in the midst of an Industrial Layout, is hosting a good breeding flock of peafowl. There was news recently that a peacock was sighted in the vicinity behind our Chamaraja Double Road.

The residential layout close to Lalitha Mahal Palace Hotel has a good flock of breeding Peafowl. A lady conservationist from Siddhartha Layout has taken a video of Peacocks next to her compound and she has started offering water and feed to them, which they are gracefully accepting.

The residents were so happy, they thought it to be a 'Harbinger of Good Fortune' and very shortly we will be rid of the dreaded COVID-19 grip. Looks like they were right; Coronavirus seems to be losing its grip on Mysuru. Thanks to the citizens who practiced good personal hygiene and respected the law.

Coming back to the brighter side of the lockdown period, Mysuru witnessed a good number of species of birds, hitherto not sighted inside Mysuru. We will make a detailed account of the species sighted in Mysuru city during the period.

The Peafowl, our National Pride and Bird, has blessed us with their selection of habitat inside Mysuru. The Peacock has always been revered as a 'Vahana of Subramanyeshwara' or 'Karthikeya.' It is this reverence for the birds that makes us happy to have them in our areas, considering it a blessing.

MUDA's affordable Group Housing Scheme in limbo

(Continued from page 1)

CDP too non-functional

It is attracting people from all corners of the world as the place is gifted with clean environment, historic monuments and buildings, concentration of industries, educational and employment opportunities, road and rail connectivity. Seeing the growth potential, MUDA has prepared a revised Comprehensive Development Plan (CDP) 2031 for the systematic growth of the city, boosting tourism potential also focussing on developing the city without damaging its heritage character. But MUDA has seen limited success in distributing civic amenity sites, residential sites, commercial sites and other non- residential sites and there are more than one lakh applicants who are waiting for a MUDA plot since many years.

Some of the reasons for MUDA failing to develop new layouts are constraints in land disputes with farmers, delay in land acquisition, government approval process and competition from private land developers, house building credit cooperative societies and scarcity of land in city surroundings.

Boon to private builders

Now the situation is such that neither MUDA can develop new layouts owing to scarcity of land and the constant tussle with farmers and landowners nor it can go ahead with vertical growth by constructing affordable group housing as the Government has not yet approved the same. Also, there is no clear-cut direction from the Government in this direction.

This literal inactivity at MUDA has been a boon for private layout developers and house building credit cooperative societies who are purchasing the land from farmers at attractive prices and are selling built properties and houses to own house aspirants. Most of the private layouts have come up around the well-built MUDA layouts and these private areas have the advantage of power, water and sewage lines built by MUDA.

Just a planning authority?

MUDA has a Commissioner, Secretary, Superintending Engineer, two Executive Engineers, 13 Assistant Executive Engineer, and more than 20 Junior Engineers. It has an exclusive planning division and has the capacity of planning and executing project worth Rs. 1,000 crore. Despite this, MUDA cannot even plan, execute and implement 15 to 20 storeyed building projects, thanks to the lack of will power by Ministers, elected representatives and influential people.

With neither layout work nor Group Housing Scheme on its own land, MUDA has literally no activity and if the same situation continues, there is a danger of MUDA being reduced just to a planning authority.

Actor Sushant Singh Rajput

(Continued from page 1)

But when he tried to knock on Sushant's bedroom door around noon, he received no response. That's when the help called Sushant's friends, who forced open the door to discover him hanging. A pall of gloom descended upon Bollywood on Sunday afternoon, as soon as the news of Sushant Singh Rajput's death broke.

Sushant made a name for himself on the small screen, especially with 'Pavitra Rishta', where he played the lead role, before jumping to the big screen. Sushant broke on to the big screen with Abhishek Kapoor's 'Kai Po Che', based on Chetan Bhagat's bestselling book 'The Three Mistakes of My Life'.

'Kai Po Che' catapulted Sushant Singh Rajput, a small-town boy, into almost overnight fame. After 2013's 'Kai Po Che', Sushant worked in 'Shuddh Desi Romance' with Parineeti Chopra, and then went on to do several films. He was last seen in 'Chhichhore' opposite Shraddha Kapoor. It was a film directed by Nitesh Tiwari, which dealt with college life and the frustrations of the later years.

The actor's former manager Disha Salian was found dead a few days ago. Sushant Singh Rajput was born in Patna. His brother Neeraj Kumar Bablu is an MLA. His sister-in-law is an MLC in the Bihar Legislative Council. He is survived by his elder brother, two sisters and father Dr. K.K. Singh. Sushant lost his mother in 2002, when he was only 16 years old.

In several interviews over the years, Sushant had always spoken of the loss of his mother as a huge blow to him. In fact, his last social media post, from June 3, was also a tribute to his late mother. Sushant wrote, "Blurred past evaporating from teardrops / Unending dreams carving an arc of smile / And a fleeting life, / negotiating between the two... Ma."

Traffic Police will now come to your doorstep to collect fines

(Continued from page 1)

In case the violators do not stop and speed away, the Traffic Police, based on the vehicle's registration number, would reach their houses and issue notices to them and collect fines.

The Traffic Police are also clicking photos of traffic rules violations such as triple riding, helmetless riding by the rider and pillion, not wearing masks, signal jumping etc. and based on the registration number of the vehicle, the Traffic ASIs will visit the house of the offender and collect the fine. The Traffic Police have begun this operation as chasing motorists who do not stop during checking may lead to accidents.

Assistant Commissioner of Police (Traffic) Sandesh Kumar said that earlier, violation notices were being generated at the automation centre, addresses of the violators were obtained from the Regional Transport Office (RTO) and violation notices were being sent through post. But very few people who had received the notices used to voluntarily pay the fines, while others used to give reason that they had not received the notice by post and escape paying fines. Hence, the ASIs of all Traffic Police Stations in city will now visit the house of the traffic rules violators and collect fines from them. Sandesh Kumar further said that the new initiative began on June 12 and more than 30 traffic rules violators were issued notices and fines collected from them on day-1.

WANTED
Smart & Qualified Teachers
(Proficiency in English is Preferred)
All Subjects - D.Ed.
English & Social - B.Ed.
Physical Education - B.P.Ed.
SUNANDHA Academy
Akashavani Circle, Yadavagiri, Mysore-20
86605-17408 sunandhaacademy@gmail.com

Bandipur Tiger Reserve prepares proposal for wild animal rescue centre

Chamarajanagar, June 14 (UNI)- The Bandipur Tiger Reserve authorities have prepared a proposal for a wild animals rescue Centre. Conservator of Forests and Field Director Bandipur Tiger Reserve T. Balachandra said today that they have prepared a proposal that will be submitted to the State Government on Monday June 15.

At present, majority of the rescued animals are shifted to Chamundi Wildlife Rescue and Rehabilitation Centre on the outskirts of the Mysuru city which is maintained by Mysuru Zoo authorities. The Director said, "As a majority of the animals are sent to the zoo, there is a space issue and it is also risky to transport the animals to Mysuru. The rescue centre in the forest region is a boon both for animals as well as Forest Department," he said.

The authorities have planned to develop the centre on 100 acres of land in the forest. The Forest Department rescues animals which are injured either in man-animal conflict or due to other reasons, such as age factor. These animals can be treated at the centre. Later, the recovered animals can be left into the forest.

"We have prepared a comprehensive plan. The centre will have several benefits and it is a boon for the wildlife as it locates in the forest. Aged animals can spend their last days in the forest," said the director.

According to Forest Department officials, the Zoo charges Rs 7.5 lakh for each tiger for a year. The Forest Department rescues several animals every year. Rescue of leopards is common in the region. The Forest Department officials have rescued two tigers and an elephant in the last two years. In addition, the officials have rescued many other species of wildlife, he added

VILLA HOUSE FOR SALE

Site No.1, Pinnacle Pearl Layout, Sriramapura, Mysore
Call: 9448136567 / 8618695106

PRAY Safe STAY Safe
SINCE 1948 CYCLE
everyone has a reason to pray

SITES FOR SALE
Near JP Nagara Ring road
30x40 Rs. 34.80 lakh
30x50 Rs. 43.50 lakh
Villas also available
Excellent Infrastructure
Fully Developed
MUDA Approved
Call : 99002 01234
90087 00123

PROPERTY FOR SALE
Residential Plot next to VARUNA Village.
10000 Sq.ft Converted Residential Property facing 60 feet Road
Surrounded by developed layouts and the upcoming JSS University and Speech & Hearing Campus
Please Contact:-
9900451894/9108212345

LEARN AND EARN
FD Interest rate
ಕಡಿಮೆಯಾಗಿದೆಯೆ?
ಚಿಂತಿಸಬೇಡಿ
ಕಮೊಡಿಟಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಹೂಡಿಕೆ ಮಾಡಿ
ಉತ್ತಮ ಲಾಭ ಗಳಿಸಿರಿ
Introduction to Commodity Market, Basics of Fundamental & Technical Analysis
ತರಬೇತಿಯನ್ನು English ಹಾಗೂ
ಕನ್ನಡ ಭಾಷೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಸರಳವಾಗಿ
ನೀಡಲಾಗುವುದು
Contact: 9916625148

Printed by T.S. Gopinath and published by M. Govinde Gowda on behalf of Academy Newspapers Private Limited at Academy Newspapers Private Limited, 15-C, Industrial 'A' Layout, Bannimantap, Mysuru-570 015. Editor: M. Govinde Gowda. Phone: 2496520/2496521/2496523/ 2496526/2496527/2496528 Fax: 0821-2496525, 2496530. City offices: Visveshwaraya Building, III Floor, K.R. CIRCLE, Mysuru-570 001, Ph: 2431774 and No. 114, D.Devaraj Urs Road, Mysuru-570 001, Ph: 2428695, E-mail address: voice@starofmysore.com, For Advertisements: ad@starofmysore.com, RNI Reg. No. 29894/78.